

From: [Geist, Laura \(DHHS\)](#)
To: [Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast](#)
Cc: [Clifford McKeown \(ra-finance@comcast.net\)](#)
Subject: RE: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017
Date: Monday, October 9, 2017 8:30:00 AM

Tom,

Would you and Cliff have time tomorrow for a call? I am free any time except 9:30 - 10:30 am.

Thanks,
Laura

Laura Geist
(517) 241-3932
GeistL1@michigan.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast [<mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net>]
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2017 5:08 PM
To: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
Cc: Clifford McKeown (ra-finance@comcast.net) <ra-finance@comcast.net>
Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017

Laura -

The computer referenced is on the services side since it is used for on-line billing and the services database.

Cliff tells me that we have no prior experience with your suggestion to "use the service budget only, and exercise the indirect rate to cover your 10% admin."

Tom

On 10/6/17, 8:59 AM, "Geist, Laura (DHHS)" <GeistL1@michigan.gov> wrote:

>Tom,
>
>TANF does have a 15% admin cost maximum applied to the State. However,
>your budget only includes 10% admin as it was presented.
>
>Your prior email indicated that the admin costs appear to be over 27%.
>When I look through the detail line items of your budget, the only item
>on the Services budget that I would have any question on is the
>Computer Expense. Could we better define that to show it is service
>related, rather than admin?
>
>The other alternative would be to use the service budget only, and
>exercise the indirect rate to cover your 10% admin.
>
>Any thoughts?
>Laura
>
>

>
>Laura Geist
>(517) 241-3932
>GeistL1@michigan.gov
>
>-----Original Message-----
>From: Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast
>[<mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net>]
>Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 6:00 PM
>To: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support Svcs
>Program Expenses for May 2017
>
>You're correct. That's no longer applicable since state money is now
>not involved.
>
>However, the 15% Admin Cost Ratio maximum still applies since it is
>funded with TANF money, correct?
>
>
>On 10/5/17, 2:51 PM, "Geist, Laura (DHHS)" <GeistL1@michigan.gov> wrote:
>
>>Tom,
>>
>>MDHHS does not have a 10% administrative cost maximum in our agreement.
>>We have a 10% indirect expense maximum. If your agency can directly
>>account for the expenditures, then you can include those
>>administrative costs as direct expenditures.
>>
>>Maybe we need to have a phone conversation about this. Is there a
>>good time we could speak? I have a meeting today from 3 - 4, but I am
>>available after and most of tomorrow.
>>
>>Laura
>>
>>
>>Laura Geist
>>(517) 241-3932
>>GeistL1@michigan.gov
>>
>>
>>-----Original Message-----
>>From: Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast
>>[<mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net>]
>>Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 1:07 PM
>>To: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>Cc: Clifford W. McKeown <ra-finance@comcast.net>
>>Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support
>>Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017
>>
>>Yes, because under the contract we have a 10% Administrative Cost
>>Ratio maximum. We need to be able to show that in the budget. Always
>>works this way in every state.
>>
>>On 10/5/17, 12:58 PM, "Geist, Laura (DHHS)" <GeistL1@michigan.gov> wrote:
>>
>>>Tom,

>>>
>>>MDHHS makes no distinction between direct expenses. Whether those
>>>expenses are administrative or service delivery, all direct expenses
>>>should be included within the budget details.
>>>
>>>The form that MDHHS uses allows your agency to reflect all direct
>>>expenses that are applicable to this grant program.
>>>
>>>I understand what you are saying about how you have done things in
>>>the past. However, this is not something that we would normally
>>>include in a grant. Can you help me understand why your agency feels
>>>it is important to note which expenses are administrative in nature?
>>>
>>>Thank you,
>>>Laura
>>>
>>>
>>>Laura Geist
>>>(517) 241-3932
>>>GeistL1@michigan.gov
>>>
>>>-----Original Message-----
>>>From: Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast
>>>[mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net]
>>>Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 12:37 PM
>>>To: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>>Cc: Clifford W. McKeown <ra-finance@comcast.net>
>>>Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support
>>>Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017
>>>Importance: High
>>>
>>>Laura -
>>>
>>>Kevin, Cliff and I met to discuss this problem. We had the identical
>>>issue at the outset of the last contract. We worked this out then
>>>and it was agreed that we could use the format that we recently also
>>>submitted to you, for the following very important reason.
>>>
>>>If we use the form that you propose, there is no breakdown between
>>>Admin and Services. If you just go through and try to figure which
>>>could be Admin and which could be Services, we would be instantly
>>>breaching the contract as the Admin Cost Ratio would look like it's
>>>27.61%, even though that doesn't reflect reality!
>>>
>>>If the form you propose is the only one that can be used, we would
>>>need to have the ability to have one set titled, "DIRECT EXPENSES -
>>>ADMIN"
>>>and one set titled, "DIRECT EXPENSES - SERVICES". Is that possible?
>>>
>>>Thank you!
>>>Tom
>>>
>>>On 10/4/17, 5:20 PM, "Geist, Laura (DHHS)" <GeistL1@michigan.gov> wrote:
>>>
>>>>Hi Tom and Cliff,
>>>>
>>>>There are items in your proposed budget that do not belong in the

>>>>Contractual category. Contractual is intended for agencies and
>>>>individuals that work on the programmatic scope of the project. The
>>>>legal consultant, database consultant, accounting, and equipment
>>>>costs all belong in the Other Expenses category.
>>>>
>>>>I have updated the budget in EGrAMS. Please review and let me know
>>>>if you have any issues.
>>>>
>>>>Thank you,
>>>>Laura
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>Laura Geist
>>>>(517) 241-3932
>>>>GeistL1@michigan.gov
>>>>
>>>>-----Original Message-----
>>>>From: Thomas A. Lang, Esquire - Comcast
>>>>[mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net]
>>>>Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 3:18 PM
>>>>To: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>>>Cc: Cliff <ra-finance@comcast.net>
>>>>Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support
>>>>Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017
>>>>
>>>>Laura -
>>>>
>>>>Cliff completed the budget and I am attaching it here for your review.
>>>>I am forwarding it since Cliff's email's are apparently being
>>>>blocked or redirected to a spam folder for some reason.
>>>>
>>>>If you have any questions on the budget, please contact Cliff
>>>>directly
>>>>at:
>>>>(717) 541-7833.
>>>>
>>>>Thank you!
>>>>Tom
>>>>
>>>>On 10/2/17, 8:49 AM, "Geist, Laura (DHHS)" <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>>>wrote:
>>>>
>>>>>>>Hi Cliff,
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>The attached Excel document should assist you in completing the
>>>>>>>detailed budget.
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>Thank you,
>>>>>>>Laura
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>Laura Geist
>>>>>>>(517) 241-3932
>>>>>>>GeistL1@michigan.gov
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>-----Original Message-----
>>>>>>>From: Thomas Lang [mailto:ra-operations@comcast.net]

>>>>>Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 5:25 PM
>>>>>To: Cliff <ra-finance@comcast.net>
>>>>>Cc: Geist, Laura (DHHS) <GeistL1@michigan.gov>
>>>>>Subject: Re: Real Alternatives Michigan Preg and Parenting Support
>>>>>Svcs Program Expenses for May 2017
>>>>>
>>>>>Here's what it said, ³Ms. Geist,
>>>>>Would you be able to send us a template that we can fill in
>>>>>ourselves of the form you sent us earlier today, the form ³Budget
>>>>>Detail for Pregnancy and Parenting Support Services Program 2018²?
>>>>>Thanks.
>>>>>Cliff²
>>>>>
>>>>>Tom
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>>Sent from my iPhone
>>>>>
>>>>>> On Sep 29, 2017, at 2:48 PM, Cliff <ra-finance@comcast.net> wrote:
>>>>>>
>>>>>> Ms. Geist,
>>>>>> Would you be able to send us a template that we can fill in
>>>>>>ourselves of the form you sent us earlier today, the form ³Budget
>>>>>>Detail for Pregnancy and Parenting Support Services Program 2018²?
>>>>>> Thanks.
>>>>>> Cliff
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>
>>
>>
>>
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